

Abstract

The invention relates to a method of generating sequencing information representing a sequence of items selected in a database. Each of the items comprises a set of descriptors. The method is characterised by comprising the steps of: a) specifying a length of items and at least one of the descriptors; b) performing similarity relation techniques between the items; and c) generating a fixed-length sequence having a morphological continuity. Each of the items is represented by a series of constraint variables having a domain in the database, and modelling each of the values of descriptors in a desired sequence as a constrained variable. The similarity relation performing step may comprise performing global similarity techniques by combining individual similarity measures on all of the descriptors. The sequence-generating step comprises transforming at least one of the values into unary constraints in terms of constraint satisfaction programming techniques.

Figure 3